Dear Js,

1/3/72

This is the day Lil began work; the first of our series of guests leaves; the second arrives. And I wonder how, with the social schedule of the coming month, I'll be getting any of my own work done. (Lil has completed the final draft of the missing chapter of PM Pt. 2, has started the intro, and I've not finished the conclusions, which do require a bit of thought.)

TC 40- I've tried several tapes and without tapes. Not until getting your letter (thanks for taking the time) did I have the wit to try still another tapes and lo! with that it works! So, I'll have to try all the tapes and return the defectives. Had I done this earlier, I'd have had a few cassettes of decent TV stuff for you, for there has been some recently (we didn't listen the the tricks of Dirty Dick last night). For example, the voice of an American prisoner in NVN saying get out, that's the Christmas spirit, a pilot saying that the recent bombins, in military terms were not wroth their cost, etc.

It is a rare thing when I forget to seal an enevlope. It is not impossible. On the fatter envelopes, I usually sit on them after sealing, so they'll stick, and then, if it seems added strength is needed, add tape, as I did in the one you described. There is an exception to sitting, if I seal an enevlope just as I am leaving. I do not think I opened and resealed any I sent you. What I usually do is let them accumulate until they get to near the limit of two or three stamps, then send them. Since there is always something to send and no real emergencies, I just put whatever there might be into the next envelope.

Don't feel there is need for special comment on the clips. I've sent what I thought might be of interest, like the Wash Post's agonizing on leaking and backrgiunders. Too little, too late, but better than never.

Although she felt lousy, Lil and I went to suburban Washington yesterday afternoon with the fine young friend who is visiting us. His sister and brother-in-law (young radio newsman) live there. Lil wore that beautiful Indian silk scarf Je sent her and enjoyed it much. It is quite attractive, and I didn't even remember there was such a thing as Indian silk!

Je didn't say how much the trousers I asked her to get Lil are. If she'll let me know, I'll send. And we enjoyed the honor. Lil got a big kick out of labelling the cassettes in the package addressed to her "to whom it may concern". Little things mean so much when everything is so bleak.

One of the guests I expect is the expert on the Kaplan/Vidal case and Kaplan. She is out your way now seeking Mrs. K, the U.S. one. If there is any special interest you have. let me know and I'll ask her. I don't know exactly when she ll get here.

Thanks for everything, and hope you have a good year!

Best,